

Series I  
Correspondence,  
1932-1973

Box 7, Folder 13

June 17, 1960 -  
September 16, 1960

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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

IN REPLY REFER TO  
Op-09B9/gmj  
17 June 1960

Rear Admiral R. W. Bates, USN (Ret.)  
12 Mount Vernon Street  
Newport, Rhode Island

Dear Rafe:

Many thanks for your letter enclosing Arleigh's to you and Admiral Conolly.

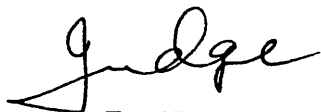
I am not sure either how you should proceed on reopening the project. Why don't you talk to Admiral Conolly about it? He might have some ideas, especially in line with Admiral Burke's letter to you which is almost a year later than the one to Admiral Conolly.

I am sure if the question of foundation support could be settled in advance that the whole matter would be facilitated. Indeed I think you could go to Count Austin on such a basis and be assured of a sympathetic reaction. Again, Admiral Conolly would be of much help in knowing how to reach the foundations.

I am returning both the letters since our facsimile machine has made copies.

It was good seeing you again. I hope you have a very fine summer.

Best wishes.

  
E. M. ELLER

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SOCONY MOBIL OIL COMPANY, INC.

150 East 42nd Street, New York 17, N.Y.

JOHN J. SCOTT  
GENERAL COUNSEL

June 21, 1960

Rear Admiral R. W. Bates (ret.)  
12 Mt. Vernon Street  
Newport, Rhode Island

Dear Admiral Bates:

The enclosed check for \$65.50 covers, I believe, my share of the cost of the dinner for our committee at the Clambake Club. I have only one regret and that is that I could not have been present. No doubt, with my great love of lobster, etc., my attendance would have brought the final cost into closer approximation of your first estimate.

One day at the Global Strategy Conference was just enough to wet my interest. We had a very good group, as I look back on it, and I can't tell you how pleased and flattered I was by the many kindnesses and personal attention which I received during my short stay. No small part of this was your own contribution in taking me into tow and making a point of introducing me around to various and sundry people including Admiral Ingersoll and Admiral Wright.

Admiral Wright's talk on the subject of NATO was of particular interest to me. He is obviously a very fine officer and it can only be a matter of regret that the services of men such as he are lost, prematurely I think, by retirement.

One thought has occurred to me since our closing conversation at Newport. Many of the businessmen who attended probably expected that their role during the week would be largely as listeners. That certainly was my impression even if my subsequent volubility didn't bear that out. But you made a good point, it seemed to me, when you explained that one of the purposes of the conference is to expose military officers to business executives from various walks of life and to get their reactions to many of the problems with which the military are concerned. Looking at it in this light, it seems to me that the civilians have almost an obligation to perform and contribute as well as they can under the circumstances. I wasn't there the first day and this may well have been made amply clear by the section leaders. If not, positive encouragement from the section leader could go a long way to overcome any reluctance to speak up and be heard from on the part of any of the civilian participants.


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I went to the heavyweight championship fight last night with Tom Kelly (Rear Admiral, Ret.) who was a classmate of Admiral Ingersoll's. We had tenth-row, ringside seats but I might just as well have been in Timbuktu as far as the end of the fight was concerned. After the first knockdown everybody got up on the backs of their seats and while I was struggling to achieve a similar advantage, the fight ended.

If you happen to be in New York in the near future, please stop by and I will be very happy to buy you a lunch.

Best regards.

Sincerely,



John J. Scott

JJS:MM

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# THE PITTSBURGH & LAKE ERIE RAILROAD COMPANY

THE LAKE ERIE & EASTERN RAILROAD COMPANY

JOHN W. BARRIGER  
PRESIDENT

June 20, 1960

PITTSBURGH 19, PA.

Vice Admiral Stuart H. Ingersoll  
President  
Naval War College  
Newport, Rhode Island

Dear Admiral Ingersoll:

The privilege of attending the Global Strategy Discussions at the Naval War College was one of life's big events. I am deeply indebted to you for the honor of a place on your list of guests invited to this notable series of lectures and discussions. Recollections of every detail of the program will long remain bright in happy memories and with them will endure a lasting sense of gratitude for your consideration.

I also wish to attest my appreciation of the courtesies of your associates, Rear Admiral Celestock and Captain Wulzen, and those of all of the officers of Committee No. 7, particularly its moderator, Colonel J. E. Rentsch, USMC, for their many thoughtful attentions, both during the official portions of the schedule and during the delightful social interludes arranged between them.

Elizabeth joins me also in expressions of thanks for your personal and official hospitalities and those of the gracious and charming Mrs. Ingersoll at your home and at the Officers' Club. These were happy occasions.

Each of the lectures was profound and eloquent. The group discussions which followed sustained and assimilated the essence of those notable addresses. I returned informed and inspired by all that I heard and saw. Such experiences will make better Americans of all who attended the Global Strategy Conference. I only regret that the program did not include more lectures and that some of these might have been "refresher" courses in military history and strategy, particularly of the Civil War and of World Wars I and II. Likewise, lectures on the nature of communism and the history of subversive revolutionary movements might deserve a place in the program. I believe that your guests would be delighted to have each day's program lengthened and night courses scheduled in order to add more lectures on important and interesting subjects. Twelve hours per day of lectures and discussions, instead of six, would be welcomed by 90% of your visitors.

I shall count myself fortunate if near future years may provide other opportunities to see you. Should your travels ever bring you and Mrs. Ingersoll to Pittsburgh, it would give Mrs. Barriger and me great pleasure to see you again and reciprocate some of your many friendly considerations.

I am, Sir, with esteem and respect,

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) John W. Barriger

bc: Rear Admiral Bates, UNS, Retired

*"Thank a 1000.000" to you for your many considerations. Please come to see me. JWB*

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UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND  
KINGSTON, RHODE ISLAND

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

June 20, 1960

Rear Admiral R. W. Bates  
12 Mt. Vernon Street  
Newport, Rhode Island

Dear Admiral Bates:

Your good letter in this morning's mail gets the week off to a pleasant start. I am delighted to have your praise of the commencement and the luncheon following. Since you have been around the world a good deal, your praise means a lot. We were delighted that you were able to attend the commencement and the luncheon and it is very gratifying that you found the experience a gratifying one.

We certainly were happy to recognize Admiral Ingersoll's achievements. It is unlikely that we can award an honorary degree to another admiral in the immediate future, but I shall certainly keep the idea in mind.

I'm glad that you had a chance to talk to Governor Del Sesto. I know that like me, he respects your opinion highly.

Although I am cutting down on my speaking engagements, I shall be glad to speak to any organization that you are associated with. I don't know what the Quindecini Club is, but I assume it's a fine outfit or you wouldn't be associated with it. <sup>but</sup> Count me out where August is concerned; that's when I am on vacation and I am making no speeches, but I am sure we can get together sometime during the fall or early winter.

With all good wishes, and again, thanks for the fine letter.

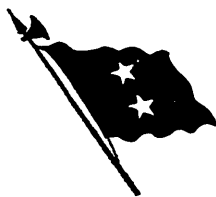
Cordially,



Francis H. Horn  
President

pwd

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21 June 1960

Dear Admiral:

Thank you so much for your very kind and congratulatory letter relating to my promotion and new assignment. I just hope that I will be able to do justice to this new and important responsibility.

As you know we youngsters would never have been able to achieve promotion without proper guidance and training from people like yourself. Thank you so much!

I am delighted to learn that your nephew feels that my commencement address was worthwhile. I did give it a lot of thought and though humble, was proud that I could do this in my old home town.

Remember you always have the key to our home should you happen to be out Coronado way.

Jean joins me in sending our affectionate regards.

Sincerely,

H. A. YEAGER  
Rear Admiral, U. S. Navy

RADM R. W. Bates, USN  
12 Mount Vernon Street  
Newport, Rhode Island

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Rear Admiral R.W. Bates, USN (Ret)  
12 Mount Vernon Street  
Newport, Rhode Island

30 June 1960

Dear Admiral,

Thank you for your kind letter of recent date. I have been rather busy of late and have not taken time out as I should to write to either you or Admiral Eccles. Please accept my apologies.

Enclosed are a few ideas I have been working up. They might be of some use to you. I expect to continue to analyze them because of their radical character.

Before too long, I'll write more concerning the Coles and their doings in Key West.

With warmest personal regards,

*Howard*

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CHIEF OF STAFF  
COMMANDER NAVAL AIR FORCE, ATLANTIC FLEET

Naval Air Station  
Norfolk 11, Virginia  
16 July 1960

Rear Admiral R. W. Bates, USN (Ret.)  
12 Mt. Vernon Street  
Newport, Rhode Island


Dear Admiral Bates:

Thank you for your very nice letter of June 17th which has recently arrived here at my new duty station. I couldn't agree more on the desirability from the Navy standpoint of having Roy Belcher selected for captain and I was able to get three of the highest type fitness reports in on him while he was my Executive Officer in the ROOSEVELT. Having served two years in the Bureau of Naval Personnel reviewing jackets I feel now that he will be selected on the basis of his record, particularly in view of his last three fitness reports in an important job at sea.

I have always steered clear of talking to any members of any selection board as they are so touchy and with some senior flag officers it does more harm than good. I know Belcher's record is outstanding and I believe he will make it this year. I know you will be pleased to know what an outstanding job he did on that ship with a crew of 3600 people and that I did my best for him in the method that gets right to the selection board, i.e., the fitness report.

Thank you again for your very kind words.

Very respectfully and  
with very best wishes,

  
HUGH WINTERS  
Captain, U.S. Navy

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***P.F. Collier & Son Corporation***

640 Fifth Avenue • New York 19, N. Y.

*Executive Offices*

August 3, 1960

Rear Admiral R.W. Bates  
12 Mt. Vernon St.  
Newport, R.I.

Dear Admiral Bates:

We are enclosing herewith our check in the amount of \$30  
to cover the work you have done on Collier's Encyclopedia.

Thank you for your valuable assistance.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "David Crawford". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "David" being more prominent and the last name "Crawford" written in a more compact, cursive style.

David Crawford  
Managing Editor  
Collier's Encyclopedia

Enclosure

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# ***P.F. Collier & Son Corporation***

640 Fifth Avenue • New York 19, N. Y.

Editorial Offices

August 9, 1960

Rear Admiral Richard W. Bates, USN (Ret.)  
12 Mt. Vernon Street  
Newport, Rhode Island

Dear Admiral Bates:

Your manuscript on Naval Strategy has been turned over to me for editing, and whereas I have not yet had an opportunity to study it carefully, it seems to cover the ground in this area. The only point which does occur to me from a brief first reading is that it discusses strategy in general, rather than in specific naval terms. However, your letter stating that your article was reviewed by highly qualified officers and civilians in the several services reassures me on this score, and I will be in touch with you again if any editorial questions come up. Payment for the article has been put through, and I trust you have received it by now.

Regarding the bibliography, could you furnish us with the names of three or four books which you consider authoritative on this subject, even if you did not use them as source material. Collier's Encyclopedia has a compendium of bibliography relating to all articles which appear in the set. Please furnish us with the name of the book, date published, the author, and the name and location of the publisher, with a brief description of what the subject matter covers.

Your cooperation will be very much appreciated.

Sincerely yours,



Jay Du Bois  
Assistant Editor  
Collier's Encyclopedia

DUB:DH:cm

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND & PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS  
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER  
PROVIDENCE

CHRISTOPHER DEL SESTO  
GOVERNOR

August 11, 1960

Rear Admiral R. W. Bates  
12 Mount Vernon Street  
Newport, Rhode Island

Dear Admiral Bates:

It certainly was a pleasure to receive your kind letter of August 6, 1960.

I was very happy to know that you enjoyed the Republican Convention. I want to thank you for arranging with NBC and CBS and one of the local stations to televise Mrs. DelSesto while I made the seconding speech for the Vice President.

From all reports which I received, the dinner at the Clambake Club for the White House Staff and Press was a complete success. Without the help of the officers and staff of the Club and Commander and Mrs. Gosling, I am sure it would not have been such a wonderful success. I was very sorry that you could not stay for the entire evening, but, of course, we enjoyed having you there even for a short time.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

*Christopher Del Sesto*  
Governor

act

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ROBERT LEESON  
BOX 1605  
PROVIDENCE 1, RHODE ISLAND

August 30, 1960

Rear Admiral R. W. Bates, (ret)  
12 Mount Vernon Street  
Newport, R. I.

Dear Admiral:

It was indeed kind of you to write me your nice letter of August 26th. I was most appreciative of the opportunity to air this subject. I had somewhat of a fear I had done nothing more than fan the flame and am tremendously pleased to see from your comments that it may well have done some good -- I hope you aren't just being kind to me.

Bayard is a great speaker and I agree with you that his words were very helpful that evening. I have taken the liberty of sending him a copy of your letter for his perusal.

I certainly hope we can see you at the wedding.

Very best regards.

RL:H

Faithfully,



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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

IN REPLY REFER TO

Op-09B9/gmj

1 September 1960

Rear Admiral R. W. Bates, USN (Ret.)  
12 Mount Vernon Street  
Newport, Rhode Island

Dear Rafe:

Of course there was never any fear in my mind about your forgetting "The Project," whether or not you forgot me. I had assumed that you were going ahead with your basic plan.

The design of campaign you outline in your letter of 31 August sounds like a good one and I am very happy over your appraisal of the new gentleman with whom you may someday be working.

If possible, however, I do suggest that you develop the Foundation aspect before pushing this at the War College. It seems to me that the project could be done either at the War College or under Admiral Conolly. The main thing is to get the money from the Foundation to pay for the staff and perhaps certain supplies. I believe we might be able to help on the supplies -- such as micro-filming, photostating and the like.

In your letter of 20 June you mention Mr. Brooks Harlow as being a key figure in getting the money from the Richardson Foundation. Since you know that Admiral Conolly will furnish the space and since it appears that under the new Command you would have no trouble reinstalling the outfit at Newport, I believe you have enough to go on to initiate this project with the Foundation. Hence I suggest this as the only amendment to your campaign plans.

Best wishes.

E. M. ELLER

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Dear Admiral,

15 September 1960

*5" du H call  
2341 Riviere  
Key West*

Your heartfelt concern over my recent failure of selection was most gratifying. Many have come to me both senior and junior people alike expressing sometimes their concern, sometimes their disbelief at this occurrence. My commanding officer seems to be taking it somewhat harder than I am. However, I understand perfectly well why this thing happened-the circumstances and the reasons therefor.

You doubtless recall my discussions with you concerning the then Captain now Rear Admiral Brush. We were very friendly aboard the Point Cruz and I had no reason to anticipate the "no praise" sort of fitness reports he gave me during my tour as squadron commander aboard his ship. You recall that I advised you to the effect he had requested me, subsequent to my serving with him, and after I had reviewed with dismay his appraisal of me, some blank fitness reports so that he could rectify the situation. You may well understand my shock when I returned to BuPers after my tour in Iceland to reexamine the record. Nothing had been changed. I visited him in his office at the Bureau and told him quite plainly that with the selection board meeting in the fall I was little better than dead under the circumstances. He told me he had done some "soul searching" on the matter, had discussed it with others and had come to the conclusion that the record could not properly be changed. To my statement that I could not possibly be promoted in this time of high attrition when justification had to be sought for passing officers over as so many had outstanding records and should be promoted he stated that he would speak to some member of the selection board on my behalf and that I should not be too concerned with the matter of promotion. I thanked him for this and left the matter in his hands.

The fact that he was under considerable pressure working for Admiral Russell, or that the accident record of my squadron was not good (notwithstanding that no injuries to personnel occurred, or that the AF aircraft/CVE combination was a marginal one), or that at least two officers' records have been modified who served under him at the time--all these, are of little consideration in the overall analysis. The fact remains that my record as a squadron Commanding Officer is below average. This to me is rather ironic for I always believed myself to enjoy the talent of leading men well. I observed as an ensign that in battle I showed no fear and my men fought well for me. In command of a squadron whose previous captain could not take the strain and handed in his wings--this despite the fact he wore

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the Navy Cross, I took a group of men whose morale was low, made them believe in themselves and soon had a good operating outfit. The exec of the ship and I didn't see eye to eye on my responsibilities to the ship and though completely loyal to the captain and exec, I could never conjure up any sincere admiration for either- as men of high moral character and leadership.

A week or so ago, I wrote to Captain Brush, now Admiral, and told him that his remarks to a member of the board apparently had not been sufficient and that my only recourse now was to rest the matter in his hands. By this I explained that if he felt I should have been promoted than he ought to write an overall "post-event" fitness report which in effect would be a reappraisal of my abilities. No answer has been forthcoming.

I believe I have a good mind, think clearly, make good decisions, am indelégate, run hard and have and can continue to give much to a navy that needs much. However, the navy has decreed otherwise and although I will make a genuine effort to be promoted the next time I am a poor loser. Yes, though a hard-headed competitor I lose poorly and do not enjoy the role of being on the second or least likely to succeed team. I have my master's degree after a course of study in which only I received a consistent record of "A's". Except for my tour with Admiral Brush my record is outstanding. I have had all the so called classical prerequisites for advancement, plenty of sea duty, staffs, joint staff, head of department, command--you name it.

But time runs swiftly and I have no time for licking my wounds. Our nation, our way of life is in trouble and I have a great stake in this. Be assured I shall serve in one way or another on behalf of this nation, but not on the navy's second team amidst the benign condescension of those seniors who are looking for advice and assistance from the front runners, not those who failed of selection. I have no fault to find, whatsoever, with the navy's selection system or my friend Admiral Brush. His reports on me constituted his considered opinion and will so remain unless amended. I believe as a Christian that all things do work out for good, and good will surely come of this. It was certainly a humbling experience for the great Cole, but my English mother endowed me with considerable resilience and my devoted wife provides a strong foundation to whatever I undertake.

So as you see, though disappointed, somewhat humbled and surprised I have no time to spend attempting to undo what is past. The lessons and experiences are firmly implanted. Certainly, I shall seek to apply these lessons in the future.

Please keep this letter in confidence. Be assured I sincerely appreciate your interest, but don't blow the roof off. ~~You might~~

You might consider or compare my situation with that of your volumes on the lessons of warfare. We were persuaded that these volumes served a necessary purpose. Others did not and the time came when balanced against the cost of your work was the requirement for it was found wanting. The work was discontinued. The man whose analysis of the decision making process and who was completely convinced that this work should continue was overridden. I have had and continue to have a fair regard for both my ability and potential. One other does not. His appraisal was the basis of the selection boards' finding. It's as simple as that.

Jane and the children continue in their respective tasks as before. Jane and I discussed the matter quite thoroughly for a few days then dropped it, simply because we recognized that brooding upon this matter was the sheerest waste of time. We are all looking forward to whatever the future holds and we're quite prepared for the best that it holds.

Just a few days ago Jane held the fort in the face of an impending hurricane with great calm and assurance according to those of my friends who observed her. I had flown on a special navigational flight to Argentina and Iceland. I was in Iceland when I learned the hurricane was heading toward Key West. Although the Keys suffered tremendously, Key West was altogether spared. I suspect that although the family would have come through unscathed protected by the heavy construction of the navy hangar in which they were housed that our financial loss would have run close to \$10,000. So you see we were spared considerable distress.

Again, thank you for writing in the vein you did and please forgive my wordy reply.

Your young friend,

Howard



16 September 1960

Vice Admiral Richard W. Bates, USN (Ret)  
Newport, Rhode Island

Dear Admiral Bates:

Like all selectees I received many letters of congratulations but none of them was as thoughtful, as considerate, and as kind as yours. As you know, sir, I have always been one of your many strong admirers which, of course, made me appreciate your letter even more.

I think I have learned many things from you but most important of all I have learned how absolutely necessary it is for senior officers in the Navy to call their shots exactly as they see them. To me you have always represented the ideal of absolute, uncompromising integrity. You have never traded the respect of the few for the popularity of the many. I am convinced that this characteristic is even more important today than it was during the war and I most sincerely hope that I will be able to live up to the very high standards you have taught me in this area.

Sincerely,

D. L. KAUFFMAN,  
Captain, USN  
Commanding Officer  
USS HELENA (CA75)

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